

**From:** Melanie Reisenauer  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/28/02 10:23am  
**Subject:** Anti-trust suit against Microsoft

Dear Madam or Sir:

You must not use our United States government to attack a private company! If Microsoft has committed a crime (a real crime, i.e. real fraud or real coercion) then by all means fine them, jail them, etc... but to attack Microsoft for the reason that we all know they are being attacked - because they are "too big/successful/profitable, etc.." is immoral and goes against what the Founding Fathers of this country fought for; the freedom to educate oneself, learn a skill, enter the market with that skill and become successful (yes, even if more successful than the competition) - the American Dream.

To attack a company because of it's ability to be successful sends a very negative message to all entrepreneurial individuals; which by the way, without those individuals this country would not have the standard of living that it does today. The message states very plainly, "Be careful! Do not become too successful! That which you have spent your life building with your own sweat, initiative, and hard work can be taken from you (by our own form of coercion) because we have the power and the guns."

I would ask you, "By what authority?" How is it possible in the freest nation on earth that you are able to take up guns and the threat of a jail sentence or heavy fines and penalize someone/a company for their ability to be very successful???? Success is not a crime and the instant you treat it as such you have moved us closer to becoming a socialist/communist government controlled state. Haven't any of you read any history? Don't you know that this is exactly what happened in Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia? Their "governments" (today we see them for what they were - thugs; thugs with guns and power) decided they had the right to simply take over private businesses, all in the name of "the people". Look where it got those "people". There ceased to be private business, no one could find a

job, food lines, production as they knew it came to a halt, the "government" lived like kings while their "philosophy" "for the people" killed them!!

So I ask you again, "By what authority?" Do we need to destroy the last great bastion of freedom on this earth (America) with tyranny rule and socialist/communist policies just so that Bill Gates, and any others who have created wealth both for themselves and countless others will be "brought down to a manageable size?" And who arbitrarily and by what authority decides what is a "manageable size?"

Again, "by what authority?" Answer that question honestly. If you do, your answer will be, "By no authority." You are simply assuming the right to do this and yet you have none. Rights are bestowed onto the INDIVIDUAL to protect them (and their property/company) from majority rule, government coercion, mob rule, etc. All are just different names for the same group.

This is a very immoral and slippery slope that you embark upon. You should turn and immediately walk away from this slope, knowing that this country will be safe again from anyone spouting "in the name of the people".

Bill Gates is one of those "people". What about his rights? Does he not deserve the same protection from force/coercion/mob-majority rule? That answer is yes, not because he is extremely wealthy, but in spite of it. He has not committed a crime, he is not a criminal. He is a man with a vision and the fortitude to make it happen. Does our United States Government now have the authority to punish such men???

Anyone reading this e-mail, if you've even allowed yourself to read this far and haven't deleted it by now, should pick up a copy of Ayn Rand's : Atlas Shrugged and read it. It is where you will find the answer to the question: "By what authority?"

A United States citizen,

Melanie M. Hoffman

Do You Yahoo!?

Great stuff seeking new owners in Yahoo! Auctions!

<http://auctions.yahoo.com>